

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A diagnostic method for determining the VWF-cleaving activity of ADAMTS-13 in a test medium, in which from 0.5 to 5 U of an ADAMTS-13-free von Willebrand factor (VWF), which has previously been incubated with urea, is/are added, per ml, to the test medium and, after incubation with the test medium, the ADAMTS-13 activity is determined by way of the reduction in the VWF-mediated aggregation of platelets.
2. (Original) A diagnostic method for determining the VWF-cleaving activity of ADAMTS-13 in a test medium, in which platelets are added to ADAMTS-13-free von Willebrand factor (VWF), with the platelets aggregating and the test medium then being added to this mixture and the ADAMTS-13 activity being determined by way of the dissociation of the platelet aggregates.
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the method is carried out in the presence of ristocetin.
4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the reduction in the VWF-mediated aggregation of platelets is determined using a calibration curve, with normal human plasma which has been diluted with varying quantities of inactivated normal human plasma being used for constructing the calibration curve.
5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, in which the dissociation of the platelets is determined using a calibration curve, with normal human plasma which has

been diluted with varying quantities of inactivated normal human plasma being used for constructing the calibration curve.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claim[[s]] 1 to 5~~, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein a serine protease inhibitor is used.
7. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 7.
8. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 8.
9. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 9.
10. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 10.
11. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 11.
12. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 12.
13. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 13.
14. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 14.
15. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 15.
16. (Cancelled) Please cancel Claim 16.
17. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claim[[s]] 1 to 11~~, characterized ~~in that~~ wherein the test medium is cell extract.

18. (Previously Presented) A diagnostic kit, containing an ADAMTS-13-free VWF and platelets, as well as urea for pretreating the ADAMTS-13-free VWF.
19. (Currently Amended) The diagnostic kit as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ADAMTS-13-free VWF and the urea are present in one container.
20. (Currently Amended) The diagnostic kit as claimed in claim 18 ~~or 19, characterized in that it~~ wherein said kit additionally contains ristocetin.
21. (New) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the method is carried out in the presence of ristocetin.
22. (New) The method as claimed in claim 2, in which the dissociation of the platelets is determined using a calibration curve, with normal human plasma which has been diluted with varying quantities of inactivated normal human plasma being used for constructing the calibration curve.
23. (New) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein a serine protease inhibitor is used.
24. (New) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the test medium is cell extract.
25. (New) The diagnostic kit as claimed in claim 19, wherein said kit additionally contains ristocetin.